

News Release

Advancing Farm to Cafeteria

By Itollems on Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Apples, cucumbers, and tomatoes are the top three most popular Minnesota fruits and vegetables among K-12 students, according to an Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy survey of school food service leaders. Getting these locally grown foods on the menus of schools and other institutions such as hospitals and childcare centers requires cross-sector partnerships, community support and relationship building. The Northwest Region Workshop is one of eight Farm to Cafeteria workshops taking place across the state between February and April.

The Northwest Regional Farm to Cafeteria Workshop will be held at the White Earth Tribal College in Mahnomen on Monday, February 4, 2013, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The workshops are designed to meet the needs of the region and strengthen connections to advance partnerships between local farmers and community institutions. Farm to Cafeteria builds strong communities, healthy people and resilient local farms, creating a "win-win" for all parties. This year's gatherings build on an earlier round of Farm to Cafeteria workshops. In 2010, more than 600 Minnesotans attended eight regional workshops that were aimed to inspire, inform and build support for local food to local institutions.

The workshop in Mahnomen will include peer-learning through presentations of practical experience and innovation in the region; panel discussion about making farm to cafeteria work for the farmers and the cafeterias; presentation on contracts and agreements between farmers and cafeterias; and tools and resources for strengthening community food systems. We'll enjoy a supper meal and generous time for networking.

"When schools buy food from nearby producers, their purchasing power helps create local jobs and economic benefits, particularly in rural agricultural communities," said USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan. "Evidence also suggests that when kids understand more about where food comes from and how it's produced, they are more likely to make healthy eating choices."

The 2013 workshops are coordinated by University of Minnesota Extension in partnership with the Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, Statewide Health Improvement Program and Renewing the Countryside, and funded by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

For more information and to register online. Contact Linda Kingery at kinge002@umn.edu or 218-281-8697 for more information on the Northwest Regional Farm to Cafeteria Workshop.

For information on Minnesota Farm to School, visit www.extension.umn.edu/farm-to-school.



News Categories

[Events](#)

[Extension](#)

[Tweet](#)

News Home

News Archives



Small Campus. Big Degree..

- Employment
- Events Calendar
- Academic Calendar
- Library
- Directories
- Maps, Directions & Parking
- Quick Facts
- Bookstore

- Faculty & Staff
- Email & Calendar
- Contact Webmaster
- System Website
- Home

2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | umcinfo@umn.edu

© 2021 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
[Privacy Statement](#)